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14 February 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

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FROM:

SECOM Staff

SUBJECT: Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court

Mr. Allan Kornblum, Department of Justice, called me this date to seek my comments on a matter raised with him by Mr. Mayer, Special Assistant to the Chief Justice. Chief Justice Burger had talked to some judges he is considering for appointment to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court. One of those judges has an unmarried son working in West Germany. Another judge has a son working in a commercial capacity in Baja California. Mr. Kornblum asked if those circumstances would likely be viewed as of security significance from a DCI standpoint. I replied by summarizing personnel security policy on close relatives, noting that we were concerned when they lived in totalitarian countries that were inimical to the U.S. or had occupational or other ties to foreign governments. I stated that from his description, I saw no basis for security concern about the son working in Baja California, and that I would take the same view with regard to the son working in West Germany so long as he was not employed by, or involved with, a foreign government or intelligence service. Mr. Kornblum said he'd check on that aspect, and advise of any applicable circumstances.

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